

REMARKS

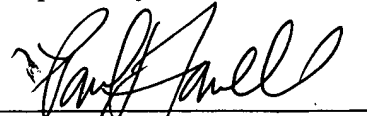
Claims 1-71 are pending in the application. All Claims have been rejected.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-71 under 35 U.S.C. §101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response independent Claims 1, 7, 8, 19, 26, 38, 44, 45, 53, and 60 were amended to clarify that the program components recited in the claims are executing on a computing device which includes a processor and memory and that the claim steps are performed to identify an exposure of the variables of the program component to modification external to the program component. These amendments now make the subject matter statutory, as defined by *State Street Bank & Trust Co. v. Signature Financial Group Inc.*, 149 F.3d 1368, 47 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed.Cir.1998) and described in MPEP section 2106 titled "Patentable Subject Matter - Computer-Related Inventions".

Accordingly, it is submitted that independent Claims 1, 7, 8, 19, 26, 38, 44, 45, 53, and 60 are directed to statutory subject matter and, since the rejection in view of the prior art has been withdrawn by the Examiner it is believed that these claims are therefore patentable. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 2-6, 9-25, 27-43, 46-52, 54-59, and 61-71, these are likewise believed to overcome rejection by virtue of their dependence on their respective independent claims.

Applicants believe that all Claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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